

Appln No. 09/975,521

Amdt date February 16, 2005

Reply to Office action of February 9, 2005

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 13-22 are pending in this application, of which claim 13 is independent. Claim 13 has been amended. The amendments add no new matter and find full support in the application as originally filed. In view of the above amendments and following remarks, Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and a timely indication of allowance.

Specification

The Examiner has objected to the specification, for containing informalities as listed on page 2, paragraph 2 of the current Office action. The specification has been amended as suggested by the Examiner. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests that the objection to the specification be withdrawn.

Claim objections

The Examiner has objected to claims 1-5, 9-10, 13-15, 19-22, 24-25 and 29 for containing informalities as listed on pages 2-3, paragraph 3 of the current Office action. Claims 1-5, 9-10, 24-25 and 29 have been cancelled. Claim 13 has been amended to recite a "kit" as suggested by the Examiner; and to recite "of the plurality of attachment sites" at lines 7, 11, 16 and 21 as suggested by the Examiner.

As to the Examiner's assessment that "with a body module in place on the chassis it appears that the user would be seated on the body module and not the chassis, Applicant directs the Examiner to the embodiment of FIGs. 1 and 3B. FIG. 1 shows an exploded view of one of the embodiments of the invention; and

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FIG. 3B shows an assembled view of the embodiment of FIG. 1. As shown in FIG. 1, the chassis 12 includes a seat 42 (see also the description of FIG. 1 on page 6, lines 28-32 of the original specification.) As shown in FIG. 3B, even with the front 16, back 18, left side 20 and right side 22 body modules attached to the chassis 12, the seat 42 is exposed for receiving a user. As such, in this embodiment the user would be seated on the seat 42 of the chassis 12, and not on the body module as suggested by the Examiner. As such, Applicant respectfully submits that modification of claim 15 is not needed.

Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests that the objection of claims 13-15, 19-22 be withdrawn.

Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b)

The Examiner has rejected claims 1, 5 and 29 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Kurita (U.S. Patent No. 4,993,983); and claims 1, 2, 5, 9, 24, 25 and 29 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Wright (U.S. Patent No. 3,224,137). Applicant does not agree with this rejection. However, claims 1, 2, 5, 9, 24, 25 and 29 have been cancelled in order to speed prosecution of the allowed claims. The cancelled claims will be pursued in a continuation application. Canceling these claims shall not be construed as an admission as to the merits of the rejection.

Allowable Subject Matter

The Examiner states that "claims 13-15 and 19-22 would be allowable if rewritten to or amended to overcome the objections

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set forth in this Office action." Applicant respectfully submits that the amendments to claim 13 overcomes the objections to claims 13-15 and 19-22. Accordingly Applicant respectfully submits that claims 13-15 and 19-22 are in condition for allowance. In addition, Applicant respectfully submits that previously withdrawn claims 16-18 are now in condition for allowance as being dependent from an allowable generic or linking claim.

In view of the above amendments and remarks, Applicant respectfully submits that claims 13-22 are in condition for allowance, and a timely indication of allowance is respectfully requested. If there are any remaining issues that can be addressed by telephone, Applicant invites the Examiner to contact the undersigned at the number indicated.

Respectfully submitted,

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626/795-9900

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